



Testimony of Carol Scully
Director of Advocacy, The Arc of Connecticut, Inc.
LCO No. 3037 SB. 82 An Act Concerning Conservator Compensation
By Medicaid Applicants And Recipients
February 6, 2023

Members of the Human Services Committee: Co-Chair Representative Gilchrest, Co-Chair Senator Lessor, Vice Chair Senator Herron Gaston, Vice Chair Representative Lucy Datham, Ranking Member Senator Lisa Seminara, Ranking Member Representative Jay Case, Senator Mahar, Representative Butler, Representative Cook, Representative Comey, Representative Exum, Representative Fortier, Representative Hughes, Representative Johnson, Representative Keitt, Representative Leeper, Representative Santiago, Representative Buckbee, Representative Ferraro, Representative Mastrofrancesco, Representative Pizzuto, Representative Polleta

The Arc Connecticut is the oldest and the largest community-based organization advocating for and with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. We work tirelessly to uphold our vision that every individual and family living with I/DD has access to the information, advocacy, and skills they need to support their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

We are a chapter of The Arc of The United States, which has 675 chapters in 49 states and over 5,000 service locations. Nationwide, we have approximately 7,000 board members, 124,000 staff, 46,000 volunteers and collectively we serve more than 1 million people with I/DD and their family members.

In Connecticut, our 14 Arc local chapters deliver over \$100 million in jobs, supports and services to thousands of people in 162 communities. Together Arcs are the largest provider of supports and services for people with I/DD and their families in the state, providing about 96% of the services.

The Arc of Connecticut supports S.B. 58 in that the bill would disallow, the Commissioner of Social Services to treat any conservator compensation, fiduciary fee and expense that has already been deemed reasonable and approved by the Probate Court as an improper transfer of assets for the purpose of obtaining Medicaid Eligibility. The Arc believes that such payments that have been deemed reasonable and of market value are important expenses and as such should be deducted from income as would rent, food or a utility expense would be deducted.

Conservators serve as an important advisor to persons who have intellectual developmental disabilities, developmental disabilities, Autism, or other disabilities or are elderly. Continuous oversight of Conservators should also be a vital element of this bill.

The Arc of Connecticut urges the Committee to pass S.B. 58.

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